

BS97040 CON

U.S. Application No. 10/073,451 Examiner Yao, Art Unit 2667
Response to June 1, 2005 Office Action

REMARKS

In response to the Office Action dated June 1, 2005, Assignee respectfully requests reconsideration based on the above claim amendments. The Assignee respectfully submits that the pending claims are ready for allowance.

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (the "Office") rejected claims 43, 45, and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,125,177 to Whittaker. Claims 41, 42, and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over *Whittaker* in view of U.S. Patent 6,078,581 to Shtivelman *et al.* Claims 21-31, however, were allowed. The Assignee has decided to accept the allowed claims and cancel the rejected claims. The Assignee thus respectfully requests that Examiner Yao issue a Notice of Allowance.

Rejections under § 102

The United States Patent and Trademark Office (the "Office") rejected claims 43, 45, and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,125,177 to Whittaker. These claims have been canceled, so the rejection is moot.

Rejections under § 103

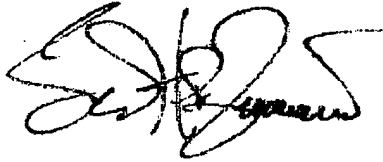
Claims 41, 42, and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as being unpatentable over *Whittaker* in view of U.S. Patent 6,078,581 to Shtivelman *et al.* These claims have been canceled, so the rejection is moot.

If the Office has any questions, the Office is invited to contact the undersigned at (919) 387-6907 or scott@scottzimmerman.com.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Scott P. Zimmerman', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Scott P. Zimmerman, Reg. No. 41,390
Attorney for Assignee